

Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs

Office of the Minister

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3
Tel: 416-326-3074
www.ontario.ca/OMAFRA

Ministère de l'Agriculture, de
l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales

Bureau du ministre

77, rue Grenville, 11^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3
Tél. : 416 326-3074
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March 28, 2024

The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay
Minister of Agri-Food and Agriculture Canada
aaaf.minister-ministre.aac@canada.ca

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Steven.guilbeault@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister MacAulay and Minister Guilbeault,

Ontario is home to the country's largest agriculture and food industry, representing over 48,000 farms and 836,000 workers across the province. Fuel is a necessity for these farms' operations. With limited alternatives available, the federal carbon tax is making it more and more difficult for farmers to do the critical work they do to keep Canadian families fed.

That's why we're calling on the federal government to immediately pause the 23 per cent carbon tax hike set to take effect on April 1st.

The federal government should support additional carbon tax exemptions rather than imposing further increases. While we continue to ask for the removal of the entire tax, the federal government should pause the planned increase as a first step.

Due to the federal carbon tax increases, Ontario's ability to produce food for a growing population and meet export opportunities is consistently more challenging. Existing exemptions to the carbon tax for our farmers won't be enough to alleviate cost pressures resulting from the carbon tax. If the tax continues to rise, Ontario farmers will be forced to pay more for their inputs, increasing the cost of food at every step along the supply chain. Neither the agriculture and food industry nor Ontario families can afford this increase.

Ensuring the productivity and competitiveness of our farmers and Canada's agriculture and food industry must continue to be our shared priority as we work to provide Canadians with affordable food grown close to home.

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Once again, we urge you to listen to farmers, the broader agriculture industry, and families across Ontario and Canada and immediately pause the planned 23 per cent carbon tax increase.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Thompson
Minister of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs

Craig McLaughlin
Chair
Beef Farmers of Ontario

Jim Millington
CEO
Canada Protein Ingredients
Ltd.

Murray Opsteen
Chair
Chicken Farmers of Ontario

Ed Scharringa
President
Christian Farmers
Federation of Ontario

Mark Hamel
Chair
Dairy Farmers of Ontario

Scott Helps
Chair
Egg Farmers of Ontario

Andrew Morse
Executive Director
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CEO
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Jeff Harrison
Chair
Grain Farmers of Ontario

Matthias Oppenlaender
Chair
Grape Growers of Ontario

Kevin Schinkel
President
Meat and Poultry Ontario



Good things grow in Ontario
À bonne terre, bons produits

Ministry Headquarters: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2
Bureau principal du ministère: 1, rue Stone ouest, Guelph (Ontario) N1G 4Y2

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